

Weekly News

3 SEPTEMBER 2025

Shiny Shoes For A New Season

The long, hot dry summer is coming to an end, we have had some rain, and some of the plants in my garden are looking much happier for it. With the change of seasons, the coming of the darker evenings, and busier roads in the mornings, it reminds us that September is here.

This also brings the start of the new academic year, and with its shiny shoes, school uniform to grow into, and new stationery. Ecclesiastes chapter 3 reminds us that there is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens.

WHAT'S ON @ NBC

FIRST THURSDAY

THURSDAY 4 SEPT, 12 NOON

[BOOK HERE](#)

MENS BREAKFAST

SATURDAY 6 SEPT, 8AM

[BOOK HERE](#)

BACK TO SCHOOL MOVIE NIGHT

SATURDAY 6 SEPT, 6-8PM

[BOOK HERE](#)

LADIES' BREAKFAST

SATURDAY 13 SEPT, 8.30AM

CHURCH MEMBERS MEETING

SUNDAY 14 SEPT

CTNA WEEK OF PRAYER

14-20 SEPT

PRAYER FOR ISRAEL & PALESTINE

TUESDAY 16 SEPT, 7.30PM NBC

Our children and young people have had time on holiday and a well earned rest at the end of a busy school year, and now this week is the first week of term. This week brings with it a mix of excitement as the children and young people return to school, reunite with friends again, and have the sense of new possibilities that the new year brings. This week may also come with feelings of anxieties about being in a new school, class, or having a new teacher.

There are many in our church family who are starting school for the very first time, that are stepping up to secondary school, and others starting college courses and university (and leaving home for the first time).

Please pray that they will settle well, in the new situations and routines, and that they may also be able to share their faith with those they learn with.

Please also pray for the parents as they help and support their families through the new classes and situations, as it can be an anxious time for them sending them off with a smile and encouraging hug.

We also have many teachers, teaching assistants and support staff in our church family, who may also be feeling the same mix of emotions as their students with the new year ahead, and so we pray for them too.

As we pray for our families and those working in education, as the doorstep photos of the start of a new academic year are taken, may we remember that there is a season for everything, and ask God how we can walk closer with him this term.

Sian

New Term, New Groups

This Sunday we will be launching a new set of groups for our Sunday morning children and youth provision. Our aim is for all NBC children to be nurtured and encouraged to develop a faith in Jesus in a safe, fun environment. We are inspired by Jesus' words in John 8:12: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

The new group names each follow a light motif, and bring a greater sense of continuity with Ignite.

Under 2s: For the babies and those under 18 months there will be some age-appropriate toys at the back of the church, and we are aiming to have someone available to talk to parents if needed. Parents/carers are also welcome to bring this age group into Bright Sparks, but will need to stay with their child. From 18 months if the child is comfortable they can be left in Bright Sparks.

Bright Sparks (2-5): Our youngest group recognises that God plants the first spark of faith in our hearts. Just like a spark, our children are small but have incredible potential to grow into something bright and powerful. A typical session will include a Bible story, song, colouring, craft, games, play.



Lightning Squad (5-11): As children grow they are bright and full of energy - like a lightning bolt. This group is about discovering how God's Word can strike their heart and mind, and grow together as a new generation.

Spotlight (11-16): A spotlight shines an intense light on what needs to be seen. For our young people not only do we hope they see Jesus, but in turn begin to shine brightly for Jesus as their faith matures. This group will remain the same as Dig Deeper, working in conjunction with Sunday evening's Ignite youth group. They will usually remain in the service on Communion Sundays.



This is a really exciting time for our children and young people as we launch these new groups. If you want to know more about what happens as the children and young people 'disappear' into the hall on a Sunday morning, or would like to volunteer to help with any of the groups, please speak to Sian or one of the other leaders or helpers.



Notice Board

Back to School Movie Night

Don't forget our Back to School Movie night this Saturday, 6th September, 6-8pm. Come and enjoy pizza in your PJs while we watch a movie together. Please book on the church website **before Thursday 4th**. The cost is £5 pp or £10 per family.

We're Recruiting!

We are recruiting a Children's Worker to lead our Sunday children's work and help with events throughout the year. It's a part-time role (8 hours per week). If you know of anyone who might be interested in the role, please do direct them to our website where full details including a job description are shown. Please do also pray that the right person sees our advertisement and applies for the position.

Newbury Week of Prayer

Open to all, this week-long initiative creates space for individuals, families, and churches across Newbury to come together in and pray. Each day will feature opportunities for communal and individual prayer, hosted by different churches throughout Newbury. We are looking forward to what God will do as we seek Him together across our community.

NBC will lead "Prayer for the Nations" on Tues 16th 7.30-8.30pm, focusing on the ongoing war in Israel and Palestine. For other dates, times and locations [click here](#)

Christmas in a Shoe Bag



Most of you are now familiar with our popular Christmas in a Shoe Bag appeal. Last year we filled over 100 bags with gifts for some of the poorest children in Ukraine.

This year's bags are now available from the Church Foyer. Each bag contains instructions and suggested gifts.

Please speak to Judith, Kelvin or Luda if you have any questions.

David Creek

We are sad to share the news that David died earlier this month. David was a long-serving member and a former Church Secretary. Funeral details are available from the Church Office.

NBC's Got Talent

Thank you to the "acts" that have signed up for NBC's Got Talent - you should have received a confirmation email. If you are planning on performing and haven't yet received your email please contact Julie or Steve as soon as possible.

For those who would like to come and enjoy the various acts - the event will begin at 5.30 on Saturday 11th October with a jacket potato & chilli (vegetarian option available).

The cost is £5 per adult and £3 per child. [Book your tickets here](#)





PRAYER

THE KING OF KINGS

Following the completion of our summer all-age series on the King of Kings, here is a prayer based on the six services for you to use in your quiet time:

Heavenly Father,

I come before you in awe of Jesus, the King of Kings, who reigns above every earthly ruler and authority.

I thank you for Jesus, the Prophetic King, who speaks truth into my life. Help me listen to his voice and follow where he leads.

I worship Jesus, the Servant King, who laid down his crown to serve and save me. Thank you that our King came to serve others, even giving his life for us. Teach me to follow his example.

I rejoice in Jesus, the Forever King, whose reign will never end. In a world where everything changes, I find comfort knowing his kingdom is eternal.

I celebrate Jesus and his Kingdom—built on righteousness, peace, and joy. Help me live as a citizen of your kingdom, sharing your love and hope with others.

I bow before Jesus, the Worthy King, who alone deserves all honour and praise. May my life reflect his worthiness in all I say and do.

King Jesus, I surrender my heart to you afresh. Rule and reign in my life. May your kingdom come and your will be done in me and through me.

In the mighty name of the King of Kings I pray,
Amen.

CHURCH FAMILY PRAYERS

For those recently bereaved: We remember especially the family of **David Creek**, and **Chris S** at this time. We think too of those still mourning recent losses, or marking significant anniversaries over the coming weeks.

Jemima & Ellie: We pray for our two teenagers heading off to start university. Ellie moved to London last weekend, and Jemima is moving this weekend.

We pray too for **Ben** as he prepares to return to uni later this month.

Arthur & Reeta: We pray for our missionaries abroad, following a natural disaster in the country they are serving in. We thank God that they are safe, and pray for the families affected by this incident.

Back to School: We pray for all the children and teachers heading back to school this week. For specific prayers see Sian's reflection on page 1.

PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD

God of peace, we bring to you the broken places where conflict tears communities apart. We grieve with those suffering and cry out for your peace.

Lord, comfort those who have lost loved ones, heal the wounded, and give wisdom to peacemakers seeking to end these conflicts.

Soften hardened hearts and help enemies see each other as fellow human beings made in your image.

Prince of Peace, bring hope where there is despair and your kingdom peace where there is war. Come Lord Jesus, and establish your peace. Amen.

